

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete listing of all the claims in the application, with an indication of the status of each:

Claims 1 to 18. (Canceled)

- 1 19. (Previously Presented) A online shopping method in which an anonymous service provider handles and delivers packages to a customer, a shop receives an order from the customer over a network and transfers ordered goods to the anonymous service provider for delivery to the customer, and an electronic money accounting organization engages in monetary transactions with the shop and issues electronic money the customer uses when purchasing goods from the shop, the method comprising the steps of:
 - 7 opening by the shop on the network a homepage for electronic shopping;
 - 8 registering by the customer with the anonymous service provider;
 - 9 providing by the anonymous service provider to the customer an anonymous ID upon request of a registered customer and temporarily maintains the anonymous ID in an anonymous ID database for a predetermined limited period of time, the anonymous ID database being accessed by the anonymous service provider to validate an anonymous ID and to correlate the anonymous ID with delivery information for the customer;
 - 14 ordering over the network by the customer using the anonymous ID provided by the anonymous service provider and designating payment by electronic money from the electronic money accounting organization;
 - 17 requesting by the shop confirmation from the anonymous service provider that the anonymous ID provided by the customer is valid and, if valid, requesting payment for the ordered goods from the electronic money accounting organization;
 - 20 if the customer has sufficient electronic money with the electronic money accounting organization, completing acceptance of the order by printing a first slip

22 bearing the anonymous ID and attaching the slip to the ordered goods and delivering the
23 goods to the anonymous service provider;

24 correlating by the anonymous service provider the anonymous ID with delivery
25 information for delivery of the ordered goods to the customer;

26 printing by the anonymous service provider a second slip bearing the delivery
27 information and replacing the first slip with the second slip attached to the goods; and

28 delivering by the anonymous service provider the ordered goods to the customer.

1 20. (Previously Presented) The online shopping method recited in claim 19, wherein a
2 random sequence of alphanumeric characters is used for the anonymous ID.

1 21. (Previously Presented) The online shopping method recited in claim 19, wherein the
2 database maintained by the anonymous service provider comprises an ID information
3 table including anonymous IDs that have been generated, generation dates for the
4 anonymous IDs, and membership numbers of registered customers who requested the
5 generation of anonymous IDs.

1 22. (Previously Presented) The online shopping method recited in claim 19, wherein the
2 accounting organization is connected to the shop via a virtual private network (VPN) or a
3 dedicated line and includes an accounting system for settling an account upon the receipt
4 of a request from the shop, the accounting organization maintaining an electronic money
5 database in which information concerning the issue of electronic money is stored.

1 23. (Previously Presented) The online shopping method recited in claim 19, wherein the
2 anonymous ID is valid only for a predetermined period of time.

1 24. (Previously Presented) The online shopping method recited in claim 19, wherein the
2 anonymous ID can be used only a predetermined number of times.

1 25. (Previously Presented) The online shopping method recited in claim 19, wherein the
2 anonymous service provider maintains a registered customer information database
3 separately from the anonymous ID database.

1 26. (Previously Presented) An online shopping system, comprising:
2 a server for a shop for opening on a network a homepage for electronic shopping;
3 a server for an anonymous service provider connected to the network for
4 generating and maintaining a database of anonymous IDs and issuing an anonymous ID
5 upon request received from a terminal of a registered customer and temporarily
6 maintaining the anonymous ID in an ID database for a predetermined limited period of
7 time, the database being accessed by the server of the anonymous service provider to
8 validate an anonymous ID and to correlate the anonymous ID with delivery information
9 for the customer;
10 a terminal for a customer connected to the network for registering with the
11 anonymous service provider and requesting an anonymous ID; and
12 a server for an electronic money accounting organization which engages in
13 monetary transactions with the shop and issues electronic money the customer uses when
14 purchasing goods from the shop, wherein
15 the server for the anonymous service provider stores personal information for the
16 customer which may be correlated with an anonymous ID provided to the customer,
17 the customer employs the terminal to issue an order for goods, to supply the
18 anonymous ID to the server for the shop and to designate payment by electronic money
19 from the electronic money accounting organization,
20 the server for the shop requesting from the server for the anonymous service
21 provider confirmation that the anonymous ID provided by the customer is valid and, if
22 valid, requesting from the server of the electronic money accounting organization
23 payment for the ordered goods and, if payment is made, printing a first slip

24 bearing the anonymous ID for attachment to ordered goods to be delivered to the
25 anonymous service provider, and

26 the server of the anonymous service provider reading the first slip and correlating
27 the anonymous ID with delivery information for delivery of the ordered goods to the
28 customer and printing a second slip bearing the delivery information, the second slip for
29 replacing the first slip attached to the goods.

1 27. (Previously Presented) The online shopping system recited in claim 26, wherein a
2 random sequence of alphanumeric characters is used for the anonymous ID.

1 28. (Previously Presented) The online shopping system recited in claim 26, wherein the
2 database maintained by the server of the anonymous service provider comprises an ID
3 information table including anonymous IDs that have been generated, generation dates for
4 the anonymous IDs, and membership numbers of registered customers who requested the
5 generation of anonymous IDs.

1 29. (Previously Presented) The online shopping system recited in claim 26, wherein the
2 server of the accounting organization is connected to the server of the shop via a virtual
3 private network (VPN) or a dedicated line and includes an accounting system for settling
4 an account upon the receipt of a request from the shop, the server of the accounting
5 organization maintaining an electronic money database in which information concerning
6 the issue of electronic money is stored.

1 30. (Previously Presented) The online shopping system recited in claim 26, wherein the
2 anonymous ID is valid only for a predetermined period of time.

1 31. (Previously Presented) The online shopping system recited in claim 26, wherein the
2 anonymous ID can be used only a predetermined number of times.

- 1 32. (Previously Presented) The online shopping system recited in claim 26, wherein the
- 2 server of the anonymous service provider maintains a registered customer information
- 3 database separately from the anonymous ID database.